

#2010
KC
3-21-03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

GROUP:	1615
EXAMINER:	Venkat, Jyothsna
INVENTOR:	Eric H. Kuhrt
SERIAL NO.:	09/495,556
FILED:	2/1/00
FOR:	SUSTAINED-RELEASE MICROENCAPSULATED DELIVERY SYSTEM
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	21208

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C., 20231

Sir:

The present amendments and remarks are in response to the July 30, 2002 Office Action where the Examiner rejected all of the pending claims. Before reconsideration of the present Application, please enter this Preliminary Amendment and consider the accompanying responsive remarks.

AMENDMENTS

(clean version of specification amendments)

In the specification, please replace the paragraph starting on page 3, line 6, with the following:

Fluid bed granulation or coating is one of the most common techniques used at the present time for small particle sustained-release. Fluidized bed equipment is available as "top spray", "bottom spray", and "tangential-spray". The core drug is first preheated in the vessel to about 30°C with hot air, placing the